

# STAGES

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #4—June-July 2015

**JULY 10-25**

**'AN UNSENTIMENTAL, NON-LINEAR ANTI-ROMANCE'**

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## GRUESOME PLAYGROUND INJURIES

WRITTEN BY  
RAJIV JOSEPH  
DIRECTED BY

KRISTEN TWYNAM-PERKINS

MILD COARSE LANGUAGE AND ADULT THEMES



# GRUESOME PLAYGROUND INJURIES

by Rajiv Joseph

By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd

Directed by Kristen Twynam-Perkins

## Modern “anti-romance” delivers darkly humorous drama

A CRITICALLY-acclaimed play from a Pulitzer Prize finalist explores the complexities of relationships at Playlovers Theatre this July.

Written by Rajiv Joseph and directed by Kristen Twynam-Perkins, *Gruesome Playground Injuries* has been described as a modern “anti-romance” as it follows the lives of Doug and Kayleen from the ages of eight to 38.

The darkly humorous drama looks at how their lives keep intersecting at the most bizarre intervals, leading the two childhood friends to compare the scars and physical calamities that keep drawing them together.

“Despite differing incidents and accidents they are always drawn back to each other,” Twynam-Perkins said.

“I had initially wanted to direct something else but when I read the script for *Gruesome Playground Injuries* I fell in love with the characters, story and technical requirements of the piece.

“It’s a massive challenge for the actors and myself to get the transitions just right but it’s also nice to work with an adult cast.”

A drama teacher at Helena College, Twynam-Perkins has been involved in theatre for more than 20 years as a performer, director and choreographer.

With more than 70 productions to her credit, she has worked with Playlovers, Roleystone, Stirling and KADS Theatres on *No Names No, Pack Drill; Working, Curtains, Bare, Eurobeat, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Spamalot* and *My Fair Lady*.

In 2008, *Bare* was named best musical at the annual Finley Awards with Twynam-Perkins also nominated for best choreographer and best director.

Her work at Helena College also keeps her busy,

directing *The Laramie Project, The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, Cloudstreet, The Importance of Being Earnest, Seussical, Honk, The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet* and *Peter Pan*.

“With *Gruesome Playground Injuries*, there are two main challenges with the script,” Twynam-Perkins said.

“The actors need to easily and convincingly portray their characters in five-year increments over a 30-year period.

“They need to understand the vocal and physical nuances of an eight-year-old child through to an adult of 38.

“The actors are on stage the whole time so they do all the set, costume and makeup changes in full view of the audience, which helps to show time passing and the transitions between scenes.”

## PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

### Dates and Times:

July 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25 at 8pm

July 12 and 19 at 2pm

A high tea follows the matinee on **July 19th**.

### Performance Venue:

Playlovers Theatre (Hackett Hall), Draper St, Floreat,  
Doors open half an hour prior to curtain.

### Ticket Prices:

**\$20** Adult      **\$15** Concession

**\$15** group bookings (group =10 or more)

There is an additional \$5 charge for the **Sunday 19th Matinee** which includes a post-show high tea

### Bookings:

Book online: <http://playlovers.org.au/online-bookings/>

or email [bookings@playlovers.org.au](mailto:bookings@playlovers.org.au)

or phone 0415 777 173

### CAST

Kayleen      Kimberley Harris

Doug      Sam Barnett

**MILD COURSE LANGUAGE & ADULT THEMES**

# AUDITIONS

## **A Man of No Importance**

**Music by Stephen Flaherty, lyrics by Lynn Ahrens and book by Terrence McNally**

**Director: Andrew Baker**

**Musical Director: Tim How**

**Choreographer: Claire Nicholls**

**Auditions to be held**

**Sunday 5 July 2015**

call backs on 6 and 7 July as necessary

The season will run from 20 Nov to 5 Dec 2015

Auditions and performance at **Playlovers Theatre** (Hackett Hall), Draper St, Floreat

For a full description see the notice on our webpage <http://playlovers.org.au/category/auditions/>

To request an audition pack or to register your interest in being otherwise involved, please email [amoniperth@gmail.com](mailto:amoniperth@gmail.com)

## **A Unique Collaboration for "A Man Of No Importance"**

In November, Playlovers is teaming up with our community theatre neighbours, the Irish Theatre Players, in an innovative collaboration to present the Australian premiere of the musical "A Man Of No Importance".

Director of the production, and Playlovers Committee member, Andrew Baker has been working with the Irish Theatre Players in the lead up to auditions at Playlovers Theatre next month. Explaining the reason behind the collaboration, Andrew says that the musical is quintessentially Irish, and it seemed like a natural fit to ask the Irish Theatre Players to get on board.

"It's a great opportunity for Playlovers to forge a stronger relationship with a company that's just down the road from us", Andrew says. "Of course, with a musical set in Dublin, we'd be crazy not to try to attract some genuine Irish talent to our show as well."

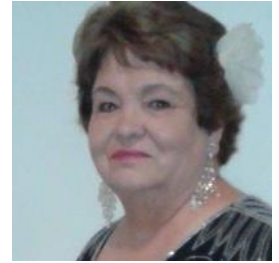
The collaboration allows the Irish Theatre Players' members to be involved in a musical, a theatrical form rarely produced at the Irish Club. "Irish Theatre Players are very excited to be working with Playlovers to stage this wonderful musical", says Claire Wynne, ITP President. To help ensure a true artistic collaboration, ITP's Artistic Director, Mary Murphy, is coming on board as Assistant Director of the show.

"A Man Of No Importance" is a heartwarming, contemporary musical by the creative team behind community theatre favourite "Seussical" (which Playlovers has previously staged) and the Tony Award winning classic "Ragtime". The Playlovers and ITP production will be the Australian Premiere of the musical, which is based on the 1994 film starring Albert Finney.

The show has a wide range of roles available for actors and singers, both male and female, aged 18 to 80 and the call is out to all of Playlovers members to consider auditioning. In addition to Andrew and Mary, the creative team includes Tim How (Music Director), Claire Nicholls (Choreographer) and Monique Wajon (Designer).

For more information about the show and to book an audition please email the production team at [amoniperth@gmail.com](mailto:amoniperth@gmail.com)

## From our President



Hi Everyone,

The theatre has been used by members for various reasons of late. I started it with an Afternoon Tea for my 70th and Tony Ridout had a lunch for his 80th. A fund raiser for Save the Children for their Nepal Appeal was organized by Janelle Hammond. A big "Thank You" to all members and friends who helped to make it a successful night. Over \$2,000 was raised. It was a very small, but happy and generous audience, who was very appreciative of the night's entertainment of Jazz.

I realise it is cold and miserable outside these nights and no one likes leaving their warm and cosy homes but please support your Club by booking seats and coming to see our next production which is "Gruesome Playground Injuries" and this opens on July 10th.

Rehearsals are well underway for the One-act Season and "A Man of no Importance". So please put the dates of these shows in your diary and book when the bookings open.

Cheers,

Bronwyn

### September One-act Season

After our highly successful revival of a One-act Season in 2014, we are keen to attempt to repeat the experience in 2015.

This year our own one-act season will run from 11th to 13th September and include 3 plays.

Kimberley Shaw will be producing *The Wardrobe*, which will later be part of Youthfest.

And Yvette Wall, who wrote *The Broken Slipper*, which was so successful at last year's Dramfest, has written two new plays, *Following the Black Sheep*, and *Being Juliet*. After our season, they will then compete in Dramafest 2015.

The performances on Friday 11th and Saturday 12 will begin at 8:00pm. The matinee performance on Sunday 13th is at 2:00pm. And will be followed by our popular high tea.



## Dramafest 2015: 23-28 September

For 25 years the Independent Theatre Association (ITA) has run the WA One Act Drama Festival known as Dramafest

Host this year is

Melville Theatre Company  
Cnr Stock Road and Canning Highway  
Palmyra

The festival is scheduled to be held from the 23rd to the 28th of September. However, depending on the number of entries received, the final dates might change.

Closing date for entries is 7th August 2015. A PDF document of the rules is at

[http://www.ita.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Dramafest\\_Rules\\_2015.pdf](http://www.ita.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Dramafest_Rules_2015.pdf)

For more information watch the ITA website <http://www.ita.org.au/dramafest/>



## Comments on *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*

In May, Playlovers presented the West Australian premiere of the black comedy, *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*. This was in keeping with our philosophy of bringing fresh and sometimes confronting works to Perth audiences. And this time we had interesting and sometimes diametrically opposed responses. It certainly polarised our audiences.

Among the written comments we received:

"I was extremely disappointed that you chose to put on such a play... What were you thinking!"

"The play today was very strong. I knew it had been going well overseas."

"I just wanted to say how terrific I thought the performance was. I was impressed with the energy and synergy of the cast."

An online review at

<http://www.stagewhispers.com.au/reviews/bengal-tiger-baghdad-zoo>

was positive and concluded with

"Congratulations to those who persevered with this production. It was a thoughtful and moving story that was well worth bringing to the stage. It is also well worth seeing."

We thank you, our audience, for your attendance and trust you will continue to support our efforts to challenge you as well as entertain.

## ATTENTION, DIRECTORS!

### SUBMISSIONS FOR 2016

We are requesting directors to make submissions for 2016.

We need plays, at least one musical and also one-act plays for the season in September 2016.

It would be appreciated if submissions could be received before the end of July. Please send to [submissions@playlovers.org.au](mailto:submissions@playlovers.org.au)

## YouthFest 2015

Youthfest is similar to Dramafest, but is restricted to under 18s so that schools and youth groups can stimulate interest in theatre arts in our younger generation.

Playlovers is proud to be hosting Youthfest again on 19-20 September 2015 at the Playlovers Theatre (Hackett Hall) in Draper St, Floreat.

Entries close 7 August 2015. All rules are in the document at

[http://www.ita.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Dramafest\\_Rules\\_2015.pdf](http://www.ita.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Dramafest_Rules_2015.pdf)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

# BOOK SALE

for Save the Children

A huge number of quality donated books in popular and specialist categories; also CDs, DVDs, LPs and sheet music will be on sale at bargain prices!

### UNIVERSITY BRANCH 2015

<b>Friday</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> August	5pm - 9pm
<b>Saturday</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> August	6am - 6pm
<b>Sunday</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> August	8am - 6pm
<b>Monday</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30am - 7pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30am - 8.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30am - 3pm

For more information please email [booksalevolunteers381@gmail.com](mailto:booksalevolunteers381@gmail.com)




**UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, STIRLING HIGHWAY, CRAWLEY** (Under the Clock Tower)

### SOUTH OF RIVER BRANCH 2015

<b>Friday</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> September	9am - 8pm
<b>Saturday</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> September	9am - 5pm
<b>Sunday</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> September	9am - 5pm
<b>Monday</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> September	9am - 5pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> September	9am - 5pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> September	9am - 12 noon

For more information please contact Dorothy on 08 9457 1575 or email [doffybrook@ozemail.com.au](mailto:doffybrook@ozemail.com.au)

**CANNINGTON EXHIBITION CENTRE, CNR ALBANY HIGHWAY & STATION STREET, CANNINGTON**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA****Save the Children  
Australia**

# What's on Where

What's on	Where	When	Bookings
The Real Thing	GRADS at Stirling Theatre Morris Place, Innaloo	19 Jun-4 Jul 2015	<a href="http://www.trybooking.com/129805">www.trybooking.com/129805</a>
Picasso at the Lapin Agile	KADS Theatre Town Square, Barber St Kalamunda	17-? Jul 2015	9257 2668
Inside Job	Melville Theatre Stock Rd and Canning Hwy Palmyra	10-25 Jul 2015	<a href="http://www.meltheco.org.au/bookings/booking-form/">www.meltheco.org.au/ bookings/booking-form/</a>
The Wedding Singer	Murray Music & Drama Club Pinjarra Civic Centre	8-23 May 2015	<a href="http://www.mmdc.com.au/tickets">www.mmdc.com.au/tickets</a>
Basin St Blues	Darlington Theatre Players Marloo Theatre, Marloo Road, Greenmount	17 Jul-8 Aug 2015	9255 1783
The Comedy of Errors	Roleystone Theatre Brookton Hwy, Roleystone	Jul/Aug 2015	<a href="http://roleystonetheatre.com.au">roleystonetheatre.com.au</a>
Hoedown at the Civic	Murray Music & Drama Club Pinjarra Civic Centre	31 Jul-8 Aug 2015	<a href="http://www.mmdc.com.au/tickets">www.mmdc.com.au/tickets</a>
Wolf Lullaby	Old Mill Theatre Cnr Mends St & Mill Point Rd, South Perth	31 Jul-14 Aug 2015	9367 8719 <a href="http://oldmilltheatre.com.au">oldmilltheatre.com.au</a>
3 One-Act Plays	Irish Theatre Players Irish Club WA, 61 Townshend Rd, Subiaco	6-15 Aug 2015	0406 085 620
The Vicar of Dibley	Rockingham Theatre 8 Attwood Way, Rockingham	7-23 Aug 2015	<a href="http://www.rockinghamtheatre.com">www.rockinghamtheatre.com</a>

## Playlovers' Playbill 2015

<b>13: THE MUSICAL</b>	<b>FRINGE ONE-ACT SEASON</b>	<b>BENGAL TIGER AT THE BAGHDAD ZOO</b>	<b>GRUESOME PLAYGROUND INJURIES</b>	<b>ONE-ACT SEASON</b>	<b>A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE</b>
Directed by Kimberley Shaw 4-14 Feb	<b>A Piece of Cake/ The Broken Slipper</b> Directed by Alida Chaney 19-22 Feb	Directed by Andre Victor 8-23 May	Directed by Kristen Twynam-Perkins 10-25 Jul	11-13 Sep	Directed by Andrew Baker 20 Nov-5 Dec
<b>COMPLETED</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>	<b>BOOKINGS OPEN</b>		

**If undelivered, please return to -**  
**PLAYLOVERS INC**  
**PO BOX 164**  
**WEMBLEY 6913**

**SURFACE**  
**MAIL**

**POSTAGE**  
**PAID**

**PP602669-00364**



## **Bookings Open**

### **GRUESOME PLAYGROUND INJURIES**

10-25 July 2015

Bookings: [www.playlovers.org.au/online-bookings](http://www.playlovers.org.au/online-bookings)  
[bookings@playlovers.org.au](mailto:bookings@playlovers.org.au) or  
0415 777 173



PLAYLOVERS WEBSITE: [www.playlovers.org.au](http://www.playlovers.org.au)



PLAYLOVERS INFORMATION EMAIL: [info@playlovers.org.au](mailto:info@playlovers.org.au)



[www.facebook.com/PlayloversWA](https://www.facebook.com/PlayloversWA)

### **COMMITTEE 2015**

**President**

Bronwyn Hammond

9447 0945

**Vice-President**

Lyn Hutcheon

6293 1138

**Secretary**

Alida Chaney

0403 367 047

**Treasurer**

Marie Corrigan

0414 529 736

**Committee Members:**

Andrew Baker

0401 443 231

Jackie Brown

0402 962 856

Sean Bullock

0401 635 434

Gaye Harvey

9446 9834

Ewen Malcolm

9284 9785

David Young

9444 2395